19th May 1954]

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) No such representation has been received recently.

" (c) The licensee has the power to fix his rates of supply to get the reasonable return permitted under the Electric Supply Act of 1948. So long as the return permitted is not exceeded, he cannot be asked to reduce his tariffs. The Government Electricity Department generally adopts uniform rates in areas directly served by them, the rates varying only between Thermal and Hydro-electric areas. The Government also does not aim at profits as such. Until all electricity undertakings have been taken over by Government the differences in rates would continue."

Opening of new basic training schools in Tanjore district.

*1034 Q.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to open any new basic training schools under the new scheme for 1954–55 in Tanjore district; and

(b) if so, how many of them are to be for men and how many for women?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) The question does not arise."

Training of midwives.

*1035 Q.—SRI T. ANANTA PAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of midwives trained every year;

(b) the estimated number of midwives required; and

(c) how the Government propose to make up the difference between (a) and (b)?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Midwives are trained not only by Government but also by local bodies, Mission Hospitals and other private bodies. The number of midwives passing out every year from Government medical institutions is about 80 to 120.

" (b) About 175 for the Medical and Public Health Departments.

" (c) The number of midwives trained in Government Medical institutions is always in excess of the requirements of the Medical Department. In the Public Health Department, midwives are mainly required for employment in the Maternity and Child Welfare centres run by local bodies. No difficulty has so far been felt in finding the required number of midwives for this purpose."